Amendments to House Bill No. 188
3rd Reading Copy

Requested by Senator Greg Jergeson

For the Senate Energy and Telecommunications Committee

Prepared by Sonja Nowakowski March 22, 2013 (8:52am)

1. Title, page 1, line 9.
Following: "UTILITIES;"

Insert: "REQUIRING A COMMISSION-APPROVED PROCESS FOR EVALUATING

CERTAIN QUALIFYING SMALL POWER PRODUCTION FACILITY

CONTRACTS;"

Strike: "SECTION"
Insert: "SECTIONS"

Following: "69-3-603"
Insert: "AND 69-3-604"

2. Page 3.

Following: line 7

Insert: "Section 2. Section 69-3-604, MCA, is amended to read:

"69-3-604. (Temporary) Standards for determination of rates and conditions —— evaluation process. (1) The commission shall determine the rates and conditions of the contract for the sale of electricity by a qualifying small power production facility according to the standards in subsections (2) through (5).

- (2) Long-term contracts for the purchase of electricity by the utility from a qualifying small power production facility must be encouraged in order to enhance the economic feasibility of qualifying small power production facilities.
- (3) The rates to be paid by a utility for electricity purchased from a qualifying small power production facility must be established with consideration of the availability and reliability of the electricity produced.
- (4) The commission shall set these rates using the avoided cost over the term of the contract.
- (5) If a utility receives more than one request from a qualifying small power production facility in a single month to contract for the sale of electricity with the utility and the requests will result in the utility exceeding the cap established in 69-3-603(3)(b)(v), the utility shall follow a commission-approved process for evaluating the requests before entering into a contract with a qualifying small power production facility.
- (5) The commission may adopt rules further defining the criteria for qualifying small power production facilities, their cost-effectiveness, requirements for the evaluation process referred to in subsection (5), and other standards. (Repealed on occurrence of contingency--secs. 1, 3, Ch. 284, L. 2003--see part

compiler's comment.)"
{Internal References to 69-3-604:
69-3-603x }"

Insert: "NEW SECTION. Section 3. {standard} Severability. If a part of [this act] is invalid, all valid parts that are severable from the invalid part remain in effect. If a part of [this act] is invalid in one or more of its applications, the part remains in effect in all valid applications that are severable from the invalid applications."

Renumber: subsequent sections

- END -

Explanation - QF contracts would be evaluated on a first-come, first-served basis. However, if the utility received multiple requests before meeting the cap established in HB 188, the utility would have to follow a commission-approved process for determining which contract was selected.